

BETHEL AND VICINITY.

The Ladies' Club will be omitted this week.

There will be preaching at Locke Mills, Sunday.

The E. O. R. A. held a meeting Monday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Johnson are visiting relatives in Portland.

Rev. J. H. Little was called to Paris Monday, to attend a funeral.

The W. C. T. U. held an interesting meeting with Mrs. I. C. Jordan last week.

Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Stearns will come to Bethel to spend the remainder of the winter with their daughter, Mrs. E. C. Park.

Mrs. Foyce Brooks of Free, N. H., is visiting her mother and sister in Paris for a few days.

Chas. Foyce has returned to Portland and has returned to Bethel with his team.

Mr. Ray Thorne, who is spending the winter in camp at Keegan, was in town the last of the week.

John Lane has gone to Norway to work in the shoe shop.

Maynard Lane has gone to Haverhill, Mass., for a few weeks' visit.

Mrs. Payson Stearns visited her daughter, Mrs. Charles Valentine, last Thursday.

Dr. Packard has been in town to visit his brother, H. A. Packard, who has been ill.

Card Tumble spent the week end with his parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Tumble.

Miss Edith Thurston has returned from Richardson Pond, where she visited her brother and his wife.

Miss Lane of Wiscasset, Maine, came to Bethel Tuesday afternoon to spend the winter with her sister, Mrs. E. C. Park.

Mrs. J. V. Holt of Andover, Mass., and son Reginald came Monday afternoon to spend the week with Mrs. Holt's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Partridge. Mr. Holt and Harry Partridge will join them Friday.

While the snow storm kept many from attending church last Sunday, there were seven from Paradise Road present at the morning service at the Universalist church.

The snow plough, this week, made a good side walk up Paradise Road. There are thirteen school children on this street, all within a short distance from Broad street.

Posters are out for a concert and ball to be given by the Volunteer Hose Company. The lovers of the dance in Bethel have had opportunity in the past to see how this Company does things, and it goes without saying, that this ball will be one of the successes of the season. The ball will be especially decorated for the occasion and one of the features will be a moon dance. Music will be furnished by the Glendale orchestra of Berlin, which has already made a hit in Bethel.

Saturday evening, December 23, a supper will be served at Farland Chapel for the Sunday School and friends of the Sunday School who wish to join in a picnic supper. The presents from the Christmas tree will be distributed after the supper. There will be no special soliciting for food but all who come please remember it is a picnic supper. Let all who are interested in the children of the Sunday School make this a merry season for them. Herrick's orchestra will be one of the attractions. Sunday evening there will be an unusually fine concert at seven o'clock to which all are invited.

Dr. and Mrs. Gehring were in Boston last week.

Rev. J. H. Little was in Lewiston, this week.

Claude Goddard is at home from the Bowdoin Medical School.

Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Thurston and son visited in Berlin, N. H., recently.

Mr. Geo. E. King of Copenhagen is spending the holidays with his family.

Miss Ethel Hammonds of Portland is at home for the Christmas vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. L. Farwell attended State Grange at Lewiston, this week.

Miss Fannie Carter of Providence, R. I., is spending the holidays with her parents.

Mr. E. A. Herrick is in Roxbury this week, helping install the engine in Thurston's mill.

Miss Bertha Thurston substituted for Miss Gwendolyn Stearns in the second primary grade, Thursday.

Mrs. Albin Chapman was in town last week, called here by the death of Mrs. Catherine Chapman.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hammond have as guests their two little grandsons of Colchester, N. H.

PRESENTS

Combining Utility and "Giftiness" are to be found in my display of

Electric Appliances and Table Lamps

at C. A. Lucas' store.

JAMESON L. FINNEY.

XMAS TREE OUTFITS DEMONSTRATION OF APPLIANCES
HOLLY AND FRUIT LAMP CLUSTERS CHEERFULLY GIVEN

Mrs. Harry Jordan is confined to the house by a bad sprain of the ankle sustained by a fall, Tuesday morning.

Wendall O. Philbrook and Gard W. Twaddle were among the initiates of Gamma Gamma Chapter at the Phi Chi Medical fraternity of the Medical School of Maine, which held its annual initiation ceremonies at Portland, last Saturday afternoon.

At 3 o'clock Friday afternoon the boys of Bethel Grammar School will present a dialogue from Dickens' Christmas Carol. The girls have prepared a drill entitled Christmas Stars. Pupils of the other grades will assist with songs and recitations. Parents and friends are invited.

Mrs. Catherine (Penny) Chapman, widow of Albin Curtis Chapman, passed away at her home on Sumner St., December 18th. Mrs. Chapman was born in Dublin, Ireland, May 12, 1833, but came to this country when thirteen years of age. She has lived in Bethel for fifty-five years and was known throughout the town as "Aunt Kate." Though the mother of nine children she is survived by but one, Ralph E. Chapman, who resides on Sumner street in Bethel. The funeral was held at the home on Saturday at 1 o'clock, Rev. W. C. Curtis, officiating, assisted by Rev. J. H. Little. The interment was at Riverside cemetery.

Shop Early In The Day.

THIS STORE WILL BE OPEN EVERY EVENING THIS WEEK.

Shop Early In The Day.

Only 3 Shopping Days Before Christmas.

The few remaining days before Christmas will be busy ones at this store.

While our stock is much reduced there are still many gifts awaiting your inspection.

The following list, though far from complete will suggest something of the varied lines and prices:

WATCHES.

A carefully selected stock of Ladies' and Gentlemen's watches, cases in gold, gold filled, silver, etc., from \$3.00 to \$50.00.

BOY'S WATCHES.

From the famous dollar watch up to \$20.00. Sure to please any boy.

RINGS.

Ladies' stone rings, all solid gold, many styles and kinds including diamond, pearl, amethyst, ruby, topaz, turquoise, opal, etc. Prices from \$1.50 to \$50.00.

Gentlemen's and boys' rings, stone, signal, etc. \$1.50 to \$50.00.

Baby rings. "Cute little ones just right for the little one's finger." 75c to \$1.50.

PICTURES.

Local views, hand colored, framed or unframed, 35c to \$2.25.

Water colors of familiar local views painted by local artist at extremely reasonable prices.

Popular line of 10c pictures, large ones on mats, small ones framed or unframed, at 5c each.

Choice pictures 25c to \$2.50.

COFF BUTTONS.

A useful gift for man or boy. Solid gold and filled. In many designs. 50c to \$5.00.

SQUARE PINS.

A large stock of these pleasing gifts in many new styles, gold, gold filled, and sterling. 25c to \$10.00.

BROOCHES.

Solid gold set with diamonds, pearls, opals, amethysts, etc., gold filled and silver in the latest shapes. Also red pins, bar pins, belt pins, etc. 25c to \$15.00.

COLLAR PINS.

These little pins are always useful. Prices range from 25c a pair for plated ones up to \$2.50 a pair for solid gold hand engraved ones.

Thinblades, Neck chains, Watch Chains, Vest Chains, Coat Watch Chains, Lockets, Embroid Pins, etc., all priced as low as consistent with good quality goods.

BRACELETS.

The secret joint and Carmen bracelets in "Mines" and "Ladies" sizes. Always a pleasing gift. \$1.00 to \$5.75.

SILVERWARE.

Both sterling and Rogers' Bros. At plates in Barry Spoons, Preserve Spoons, Cold Meat Forks, Cream, Gravy and Soup Ladles, Napkin Rings, Pickle Jars, Butter Dishes, Sugar Shells, Butter Knives, Child's set, Pie Knives, etc.

FOUNTAIN PENS.

Always a useful and practical gift. Largest and most complete line in town to select from. L. E. Waterman's, Parker's Lucky Curve, and Crocker Self-filling Pens, all good ones and fully warranted. \$2.50 to \$5.00. Other pens \$1.00 to \$2.00.

CLOCKS.

Black Wood, Fancy Brass and Gilt, Nickel clocks, etc., 85c to \$5.00.

VAN'S POST CARDS AND CAL- ENDARS.

You all know Van's views. Made up into calendars they are pleasing and attractive gifts. 35c each.

Van's Photo Post Cards for a little Xmas card are fine. 3c each.

5 and 10 CENT COUNTER.

Filled with articles of many kinds. Many of them special bargains at the prices.

BOOKS.

Always a gift suitable for young or old. Boys' Books by Henry, Alger, Castleman, etc., 25c each. Girls' Books by Southworth, Sheldon, Sophie May, 25c each. Children's Books in linen, paper and cloth, 5c to 50c. Popular Copyright Novels, attractive bindings, by popular authors, 50c each. Latest Novels, \$1.12.

LEATHER GOODS.

Hand bags, Purses, Vanities, Magazine Covers, Address Books, Glove Cases, Table Mats, etc., 10c to \$3.00.

TOILET SETS.

Manicure Sets, Military Brushes, Brush and Comb Sets, Cloth, and Hat Brushes, Tie Racks, 25c to \$5.00.

STATIONERY.

Fancy boxed paper for children, 10c to 25c. Fine boxed paper for adults, very attractive boxes, 25c to \$1.00.

HAND PAINTED CHINA.

Floral Set, Fruit Plates, Candle Sticks, Pitchers, Bon Bon Dishes, Trays, Vases, etc. Should be seen to be appreciated. \$1.00 to \$17.00.

BRASS GOODS.

Jardiniere, Ash Tray, Ink Wells, Candle Sticks, Etc., 50c up.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

add much to the Christmas tree, tinsels and ornaments, 5c to 10c each.

Xmas cards, tags, seals, ribbons, wrapping paper, tissue paper, etc.

CHINA.

As large a stock as usual and if anything prettier than ever. Jardiniere, Fern dishes, Smoking Sets, Pitchers, Tea Sets, Chocolate Sets, Tea Cups, Plates, Bowls, Comb and Brush Tray Sets, etc. Be sure to look them over, 10c to \$5.50.

HANDKERCHIEFS.

Ladies', Gentlemen's and Children's Handkerchiefs. Great variety to choose from. Always acceptable, 5c to \$1.

NECKWEAR AND BELTS.

Attractive stock of the latest ideas in Bows, Collars, Stocks, Belts, Collar and Cuff Sets, Scarfs, etc., 25c to \$1.50.

DIARIES, 1912.

Good assortment at right prices. 10c to \$1.00.

EMBROIDERY GOODS.

Center pieces, Table runners, Pillow Tops, Handkerchief Bags, Pillow Cases, Jabots, Ties, Belts, Tie Racks, Calendar pads, Pin cushions, etc. 10c to \$1.00. Salter's silk, Porcelain, etc., in white, black and colors.

TOYS.

Bring the children in to see the toys. Below are a few of the many. Banks, Automobiles, Trains, Fire engines, Presses, Horses, Dogs, Cats, Stores, Tops, Watches, Rubber Toys, Magic Lanterns, Reins, Whips, Tea Sets, Dolls' Beds, Trunks, Boats, Drums, Mechanical Toys, Slides, etc., 5c to \$1.50.

DOLLS.

Large line of dolls, dressed ones, and undressed, kid, cloth, rubber, celluloid, bisque, etc. Sure to please. 5c to \$1.50. Dolls' heads, 10c to \$1.00.

GAMES.

Large line of games. Flinch, Authors, Anagrams, etc. for young and old, 5c to \$1.00.

SWEET GRASS BASKETS.

Best line this store has ever shown. Many shapes, sizes and prices. Be sure and see them. Our special is drinking glass in little sweet grass case, only 50c complete.

We thank you for the generous patronage of the past month and year and wish one and all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

EDWARD KING

Bethel

Maine

HERRICK & ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

H. H. HAST ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

DR. E. E. TIB PHYSICIAN and

Local and Long Distance

O. H. EAT Auctioneer

All orders promptly Goods sold by the day

DR. E. A. SH Dentist

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Rumford, Office hours 8 a. m. Other hours by ap

JAMES H. I. Rumford M

General Contractor, also the Artificial B

We take plans and l to order for any size of entire buildings or f

have 100 different des of blocks. We al assortment of blocks walls, foundations, at sidewalks and all kin

LUOIAN W. BL. Counsellor at

Post Office Bk 24,

Rumford, M Collections a specialty

E. E. White BETHEL, Marble & Granite

Chaote Designs. First-Class Workman

Letters of inquiry p sd See our work.

Get our pri

E. E. WHITE Satisfact

Dr. PRUDANT

Permanently loc No. 7 Brown St.

At branch office at 1 comb's, Fryeburg, Main day of each month, a following.

1 Cure Catarrh, Dyp Piles, Rheumatism, B Cancer or any Discl ion of the B

7-9-08

COMMISSION H

The advertisement recent some of the of New England. will doubtless find t

Apples, Potatoes, E ship to

P. H. WALL General Commission M Agents Fletcher's Imp Union & Fulton Etc. References and Stat

10-5-131.

Try us on your shipm Apples, Potatoes, Etc.

IMMEDIATE R W. W. BEN BOSTON, M

10-5-131.

HALL & CO Fruit & Produce Co

Apples, Potatoes, Etc. our Special

100-102 Russell Hall Send for Stencils and report.

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Ship your Apples, Potatoes, Etc. to

OHAPIN BRO BOSTON, M

Shipping Cards and S on request.

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DRESSED LAMBS A LIVE AND DRESSED

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HERRICK & PARK,
Attorneys-at-Law.
Bethel, Maine.

H. H. HASTINGS,
Attorney-at-Law,
Frye Office, Bethel, Me.

DR. E. R. TIBBETTS,
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON,
Bethel, Me.
Local and Long Distance Telephones.

O. H. EATON,
Auctioneer.
All orders promptly attended to.
Goods sold by the day or on Commission. Day telephone, 113-14
Bidirectional, - Maine.

DR. E. A. SHEEHY,
Dentist.
Strathglass Building,
Rumford, Maine.
Office hours 8 a. m. to 5 p. m.
Other hours by appointment.

JAMES H. KERR,
Rumford Maine.
General Contractor, Also Proprietor of
the Artificial Stone Co.
We take plans and build the blocks
to order for any size or dimensions for
entire buildings or foundations. We
have 100 different designs and dimen-
sions of blocks. We also have a good
assortment of blocks for retaining
walls, foundations, steps, buttresses,
sidewalks and all kinds of concrete
work.

LUCIAN W. BLANCHARD,
Counsellor-at-Law,
Post Office Bldg.,
Rumford, Maine.
Telephone 7-3.
Collecting a specialty.

E. E. Whitney & Co.
BETHEL, ME.
Marble & Granite * * * * * Workers.
Chaste Designs.
First-Class Workmanship.
Letters of inquiry promptly answered.
Get our prices.
E. E. WHITNEY & CO.
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

DR. PRUDANT BEDARD
Permanently located at
No. 7 Brown St., Norway, Me.
At branch office at Freeport, White-
comb's, Fryeburg, Maine, the last Tues-
day of each month, and three days
following.
1. Cure Catarrh, Dyspepsia, Diabetes,
Piles, Rheumatism, Bright's Disease,
Cancer or any Disordered Condi-
tion of the Blood.
7-9-08

COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

The advertisements below, rep-
resent some of the leading houses
of New England. Our readers
will doubtless find them of value.

Apples, Potatoes, Poultry, Eggs.
Ship to
P. H. WALL & CO.,
General Commission Merchants.
Agents Fletcher's Improved Egg Case.
Clinton & Polton Ets., BOSTON.
References and Stencils on request.
10-5-131.

Try us on your shipments of
Apples, Potatoes, Live Poultry,
Etc.
IMMEDIATE RETURNS.
W. W. BENJAMIN,
BOSTON, MASS.
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HALL & COLE.
Fruit & Produce Commission Mer-
chants.
Apples, Potatoes and Cranberries
our specialties.
100-102 Faneuil Hall Market, Boston
Send for Stencils and weekly market
report.
10-5-131.

Ship your
Apples, Potatoes, Eggs, Game and
Poultry to
CHAPIN BROTHERS,
BOSTON, MASS.
Shipping Cards and Stencils furnished
on request.
10-5-131.

Apple, Whaler & Co.
BOSTON
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
WANT
APPLES
Poultry and Eggs
POTATOES
Dressed Lamb and Calves
10-5-131.

APPLES
BUTTER AND EGGS
POTATOES
DRESSED LAMB AND CALVES
LIVE AND DRESSED POULTRY
10-5-131.

Porteous, Mitchell & Braun Co.

Portland's Modern Department Store.

OUR superb store decorations are in
themselves worth coming to Portland
to see. When the switch is turned
on, the outside front of our store becomes
simply one blaze of glorious colored lights in-
termingled with forest green foliage. It forms
a picture not soon to be forgotten and may be
seen for many miles from the surrounding
country.

The inside decorations are equally impres-
sive. With spanning arches, illuminated bel-
fries, hundreds of Christmas wreaths and trees,
scores of Christmas bells with colored tongues,
yard after yard of evergreen festooning and
countless colored electric lights, our store has
been transformed into a veritable Fairyland—
Come and see it!

**We Are the Christmas
Shopping Headquarters
in Maine**

Anyone who is at all acquainted with con-
ditions will tell you that we never before have
been in such admirable condition to meet your
needs as we are just now. Since last season
we have added one whole large floor to our
selling space—this means a greater scope for
Christmas novelties. Another speedy passen-
ger elevator doubles our services in carrying
our customers to and from the upper floor. A
temporary use of part of our new Free Street
annex enables us to entirely relieve the con-
gestion on busy days.

**But, After All, to the
Christmas Shopper the
Goods and Prices Are
of Most Importance,
Listen!**

Our stocks are chosen from the biggest and
best markets in the world. On our counters
you will find the same kind of novelties that
are being shown in the stores of any of the
larger American cities. As we are members
of the "Dry Goods Union" of New York City,
one of the most powerful buying organizations
in the country, we can and do buy our goods
at the very lowest prices and as we are build-
ing up our business by the small profit policy,
you can readily see how and why we do give
better goods for the same price than may be
secured in stores which do not enjoy our ad-
vantage. Nothing hard to understand about
that, is there?

Come Here for Toys and Dolls

Prices range from 10c to \$25.00.
Ask to see our famous \$1.00 doll

Come Here for Holiday Books

A big comprehensive stock. Gift
Books, Picture Books, special Hol-
iday Books, Books in sets, etc.

Come Here for Framed Pictures

All kinds, all styles, all sizes. A
special showing at 25 cents each.
Others from 25 cents to \$2.50.

**Come Here for Jewelry, All
Kinds**

Solid gold, solid silver, gold filled,
gold plated, silver plated. Many
special values in all kinds.

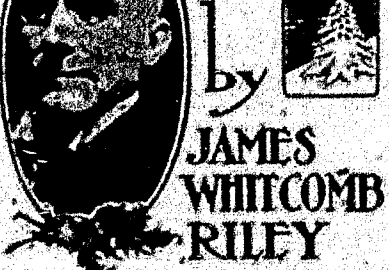
**Come Here for Furs and Fur
Coats**

Let us show you to your own sat-
isfaction how we can save you
money on these goods.

Send for Our Free Catalogue. We Pay
Express Charges on \$5. Worth or Over

PORTEOUS, MITCHELL & BRAUN CO.,
322 Congress St., PORTLAND, MAINE.

**Little Mandy's
Christmas
Tree**



by
**JAMES
WHITCOMB
RILEY**

LITTLE Mandy and her
Ma
"B poorest folks you ever
saw!"
Lived in poorest house
in town.
Where the fence "up all tore down.

And no front-door steps at all—
let a' old box "tint the wall;
And no doorknob on the door
Outside—Myl but they "uz poor!

Wuz no window-shutters on,
And some of the windows gone.
And where they "uz broke they'd par's
let brown paper "cross the place.

Tell you when it's winter there,
And the snow let ever'where,
Little Mandy's Ma she "uz
"Spec" they'll freeze to death some day

Wunst my Ma and Me—when we
He'd to church, and 't point to be
Christmas p'ety soon—we went
There—like the Committee sent.

And Girl! When we're
in the door,
Wuz no carpet on
the floor,
And no fire—and
heels—and—head
Little Mandy's tucked
ed in bed.
And her Ma told
my Ma she
Got no coffee but fat
tea,
And fried mush—
and's all they had
Sense her health
broke down so
bad.

Men Ma hug and hold me where
Little Mandy's layin' there;
And she kiss her, too, and men
Mandy kiss my Ma again.

And my Ma she told her we
Goin' to have a Christmas Tree
At the Sunday School, 't's for
All the children, and for her.

Little Mandy think—men she
Say, "What is a Christmas Tree?"
Now my Ma she gived her Ma
Somepin' 't I saw.

And say she must
take it—and
She let make her
keep her hand
Wite close shut, and
men she kiss
her hand—shut it
like it is.

Nen we comed away
— And men
Wit the Christmas
Tree again,
And all of us chil-
drens be
At the Church and
Christmas Tree—

And all our toys and things
"At old Santa Claus be bring
And puts on the Tree—wite where
The Big Tree "uz standin' there.

And the things "uz all looked down,
And the children, all in town,
Got their presents—men we see
They's a little Christmas Tree.

Wite behind the Big Tree—so
We can't see till men, you know,
And it's all let loaded down
With the prettiest things in town!

And the teacher
smile and say:
"Tis here Tree 't's
hid away
It's marked "Little
Mandy's Tree!"
Where is she?
Nen nobody say a
word.
Stillst place you
ever heard!
Till a man tipes up
where
Teachers' still a
wailing there,

Nen the man he whisper, so
let the Teacher hear, you know,
Nen he tipes back and go
Out the Big door—let us slow!

Little Mandy, though she don't
Answer—and Ma say "she won't
Never, though each year they'll be
"Little Mandy's Christmas Tree!"

For pore children—my Ma says—
And Committee say they gues
"Little Mandy's Tree" 't'll be
larger than the other Tree!

Copyright, by Emily Norton Co.

Children Cry for Fletcher's

CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been
in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of
and has been made under his per-
sonal supervision since its infancy.
Allow no one to deceive you in this.
All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but
Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of
Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

What is CASTORIA

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Pare-
goric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It
contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic
substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms
and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind
Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation
and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the
Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep.
The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS

Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

In Use For Over 30 Years

MEN'S SHOES.

Men's lightest and snappiest shoes demanded by the most fas-
tidious wearer.

Men's Dry Feet Work Shoes.

Elk Shoes for every day wear.

Elk Soled Tennis Cloth Top.

Marathon Tennis, Rubber Soles, One of the best.

Women's Latest Style Oxford and High Shoes.

Repairing promptly done with the best of leather at

E. E. RANDALL'S,

BETHEL, MAINE.

**BRADLEY'S, SWIFT'S FERTILIZERS
and BOWKER'S**

None Better. Few as Good.

LILY WHITE FLOUR

The kind the best cooks use.

WOODBURY & PURINGTON
Bethel, Maine.

A Choice Line of

GROCERIES

AND

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Stock Complete and Prices Right.

C. K. FOX, BETHEL, ME,

IRA C. JORDAN

DEALER IN

**General
Merchandise**

and Grain,
BETHEL, MAINE.

G. E. TOLMAN & CO.,

FRANK BLANK
SOUTH PARIS, MAINE

Insurance

NEW BATHING BUILDING
PORTLAND, MAINE

Pianos and Organs

RUMFORD.

E. B. Davis has a most attractive store in the Howe building. Holly and all kinds of Xmas flowers as well as ferns in attractive hanging pots are for sale at reasonable prices.

The wedding of Frank A. Martin and Miss Ida M. Richardson occurred Monday at noon in Brewer. The young couple were married at their own home by Rev. Geo. A. Martin, formerly pastor of the M. E. church of this town. Mrs. A. K. Martin was present at the ceremony.

Miss Hawes of Westbrook visited her brother Henry Q. Hawes the first of last week.

Miss Elizabeth Quail will leave Saturday to spend Christmas with her parents in St. Stephens, N. B.

On Friday of last week the Rumford High School basketball team played Bryant's Pond High School team and beat them 19 to 6. The High School team are certainly "coming some" as the slang expression is.

H. L. Elliott and Henry Nelson are at Roxbury Pond surveying and looking out for some water for the new Water District which is to be formed. Hon. J. P. Swaney of Canton was in town Monday and Tuesday of this week on business.

The town schools closed on Friday, with the exception of the High School for a two weeks' vacation.

On Saturday afternoon the young ladies of the High School gave Miss Ethel Foster a shower at the home of Miss Eleanor Hawley. A merry time was enjoyed and Miss Foster was the recipient of many useful and appropriate presents.

The Queen Esther girls will hold their next meeting with Miss Ethel Brainerd at her room on Rumford Ave., and Miss Louise Strasburg will be the leader, her subject being "Immigration."

Miss Mildred Weacott and Miss Norma Gates are expected home from Simmons College, Friday.

Miss Hazel McGregor and Frances Harris arrived home tonight from LaSalle's Seminary in Amherst where they are attending school.

Special music will be rendered in all the churches on Sunday. The Methodist church will give a cantata Sunday evening. Miss Jean Moir and Mrs. Moir will be the soloists of the morning and evening.

The Bowling "Crane" is still on and the alleys at the Institute are full every evening.

Mrs. Everett Joscelyn of Portland is the guest of her father, Mr. Geo. D. Bisbee.

Miss Margaret Dennett will leave Saturday for Boston to spend the Xmas holidays with friends.

Jas. Shea has moved his tailoring establishment into the building situated at 22 Congress St., and has got a first class tailor shop ready to serve his customers in first class style.

Albert Bellevue returned Tuesday, from Bangor where he spent Sunday.

The masquerade ball held on Dec. 13, at Howard Opera house in Mexico by Robert and Smith was a great success. Quite a few from this side attended. Wallace Butterfield won a prize as being the best dancer on the floor.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lynn of Oquossoc were in town Monday.

E. L. Atwood of U. of M. is expected home on Saturday to spend a week's vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Atwood.

E. T. Parker left Monday for York County on business for the rest of the week.

Miss Melly Heseock left Saturday morning for Phillips after spending two weeks with her sister, Mrs. Shreeky.

Miss Ethel Brainerd left Saturday for Augusta to spend Christmas with her mother and sister.

ANDOVER.

The King's Daughters met last week with Mrs. Ella Damon. The next meeting will be in January, when the officers for the coming year will be elected.

Mr. and Mrs. John Gammon and son, who have been visiting at John Talbot's, returned to their home in Providence, R. I., last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Jackson, who have spent the past several months at their summer home returned Dec. 13th to their home in Brookline, Mass.

The Ladies' Aid will hold its annual meeting at Mrs. Henry L. Poor's, Dec. 27.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hall are receiving congratulations on the birth of a daughter, Friday, Dec. 15.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Merrill were the guests of H. L. Akers and wife, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Caldwell are in Mexico this week, the guests of their son, Guy and family.

Dr. W. Z. Twitchell's camp at No. 4, which was occupied by Henry Miller and family, was burned Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Miller and children were in Upton visiting, and Mr. Miller was at the village when the building caught fire. Everything was burned. The fire was supposed to have caught around the chimney. Mrs. Miller and children returned the first of the week and are living in Dr. Twitchell's rent on Pine street.

Lester Poor is at home from the Lakes.

Miss Villa Akers is spending a short time at Rumford.

Miss Florence Cummings from Norway was the guest of J. L. Bailey and wife the first of the week.

Miss Gladys Greenleaf closed a successful term of school, Friday at No. 4, and returned to her home in Southport, Saturday.

Harison Amber and Henry Howard from Kent's Hill are enjoying the Christmas vacation at their homes.

Ray Thurston was at Bethel, Sunday. Geo. Cole, John Martin and G. E. Ray were at C. Pond last week, hunting.

Hattie Merrill from Roxbury will board at Harry Merrill's and attend the school at East Andover this winter.

The Girls' Club of Ten met with Grace Mitchell, Saturday. Their sale Monday evening, Dec. 11, was a success, almost \$25 being taken. They will send this money to the Children's Hospital, in Portland.

Arthur Ladd has 150 cords of pulp wood to saw for Orlando Hannaford and 150 cords of birch for the Philbrick Bros.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Hainsdel, who formerly lived at East Andover visit friends in town, recently.

Herbert Hutchins has been at home several days with a quinsy sore throat. Frank Akers, Ray Thurston, and Walter Akers will go to Richardson Pond soon for the winter.

The Knights of King Arthur held a social in the H. & L. Hall, Monday evening and invited their friends. A merry evening was spent.

Rev. H. L. Packard took for his text Sunday morning, "The Voice of Him That Cries in the Wilderness, Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord, Make Straight in the Desert a Highway for Our God." Isa. 40:3.

Charles Swett, who has been gold panning at the Lakes, returned home, Saturday.

Marshall Parrott from Lyman is the guest of his mother, Mrs. Owen Lovjoy.

Mrs. Abbie Poor will spend Christmas with friends in Portland.

Virgil Cole is slowly recovering from the gun shot wound received several weeks ago.

The schools in town closed Friday for a two weeks' vacation.

LIGHTING BY GAS.

It Was a Costly Process When It Was First Established.

The first incorporated gas company was the National Light and Heat Company of England, established in 1809. In America the first gas company was incorporated in Baltimore in 1816, the second one in Boston in 1822, and the next one was the New York Gaslight company, incorporated in 1825.

Prior to 1830 the gas business of this country was nominal, but the price probably was responsible for its slow development. From 1824 to 1838, says Moody's Magazine, the New York Gaslight company sold gas to consumers at the rate of \$10 a thousand cubic feet.

The first artificial illuminating gas was produced in England about 1792 by one Dr. Hales, but not until 1793 was a practical test made. In that year the Earl of Devonshire of Scotland arranged an apparatus by which he lighted his castle with gas. The same year William Murdoch of Birmingham, England, introduced gas as a light in his workshops at Redruth and Cornwall.

As Mr. Murdoch was the first man to wrap any commercial benefit from the discovery of the use of illuminating gas, he may properly be accredited as the father of modern public utility. In 1818 London bridge was illuminated by gas, and five years later gas was in general use throughout the main part of London.

THE WORDS YOU SAID.
Kind, were they? Or mean, were they?
Full of hate or cheer?
Bitter or serene were they?
Did they jibe or jeer?
Do you know they did not die
On the empty air,
But that still on wings they fly
Ever here and there?

He to whom your word was kind
Had a perfect day,
All he saw or heard was kind
All along the way,
And the folk with whom he dealt,
After he had gone
Still the kindly impulse felt,
Passed the good word on.

Out and out it spread, until
Circling mile on mile
Grew the word you said until
All were glad the while.
You may never know the good
You have done to men
But it shall, just as it should,
Circle back again.

And the bitter, growling speech
Went from one to one;
When you made the growling speech
Then it was not done.
But it journeyed up and down
Ways you cannot guess,
Breeding sigh and fret and frown
And sad unappetites.

Kind, were they? Or mean, were they?
Born of joy or spite?
Sharp and full of spleen, were they,
Or blent with delight?
What they were and what they meant,
When they had their start,
Think you what a way you sent
What was in your heart?
—Wilbur D. Nesbit, in Chicago Evening Post.

If you are troubled with chronic constipation, the mild and gentle effect of Chamberlain's Tablets makes them especially suited to your case. For sale by W. E. Bosserman, 127-1m.

Are You Twenty-one?

Deposit Five Dollars a Week with

Rumford Falls Trust Co.,

When you are		
Twenty-six	You will have	\$1,462.00
When you are		
Thirty-one	You will have	\$3,252.00
When you are		
Forty-one	you will have	\$8,070.00
When you are		
Sixty-one	you will have	\$25,888.00

We are paying Fifty Thousand Dollars a year to depositors in our Savings Department.

One Dollar opens on account and
DRAWS INTEREST.

New Accounts invited, be they large or small. Send us your deposit to-day. We will do the rest. Write us.

STANLEY BISBEE

Hardware and Builders' Material.

Gasoline.

Stanley Bisbee, Rumford.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Below we enumerate a list of our Holiday line, calling attention to the many different articles carried in stock. As our prices are moderate for the quality of goods we have we do not offer any premiums but prefer to make it up in our liberal prices.

HAIR BRUSHES, DRINKING GLASSES, TOOTH BRUSHES, MATCH

SAFES, NAIL BRUSHES, SHAVING MUGS, INFANT BRUSH-

ES, MILITARY BRUSHES, TOILET CASES, PERFUM-

ERY, MANICURE SETS, BILL BOOKS, JEW-

EL CASES, LEATHER GOODS, NECK-

TIE BOXES, STATIONERY,

GLOVE BOXES, CON-

FECTIONERY,

TOILET

SETS, HOLL-

DAY BOXES, THER-

MON BOTTLES, GAMES, HAND

MIRRORS, CARD CASES, MUSIC ROLLS,

BASKETS, BRASS GOODS, NAIL FILES, BOOK-

LETS, HAND BAGS, PLAYING CARDS, CLOTHES

BRUSHES, SOAP BOOKS, XMAS CARDS, POST CARD ALBUMS,

SOAP BOXES, PIPES, FOUNTAIN PENS, CIGARS, THERMOMETERS,

CIGAR HOLDERS, CUTLERY, KODAKS, WRITING PADS, SAFETY

RAZORS, BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS.

W. E. BOSSERMAN, Druggist.

BETHEL,

MAINE.

THINK IT OVER

Would the ablest business men in the country have a bank account if there was no advantage or convenience in it? Would they have been able to reach their present commanding position if they had spent half their time worrying about the safety of the money they had made?

THE RUMFORD NATIONAL BANK

Invites you to open an account as they did. The same advantages they found in so doing will accrue to you if you accept the invitation.

THE RUMFORD NATIONAL BANK.

RUMFORD, ME.

4 PER CENT. INTEREST.



GUARANTEED Kirschbaum Clothes. ALL-WOOL HAND TAILORED

You want good looks and service out of your suit or overcoat for more than the present day or week. Don't forget that the weeks and months to come are just as important.

GET ALL-WOOL!

GET HAND-TAILORING!

The way to make certain of all-wool; to be sure of hand-tailoring, is to let us fit you in a suit or overcoat with the

Kirschbaum Label.

We can offer these superior suits and overcoats with the assurance that they will give splendid long wear satisfaction.

Prices, \$15 to \$22.

F. H. NOYES CO.,
NORWAY Blue Stores. SOUTH PARIS

BOOTS AND SHOES

Make Acceptable Christmas Presents.

And as usual we have a very complete stock of all kinds for Men, Women and Children.

If you come here you will find what you want at the RIGHT PRICE. We also have a large line of TRUNKS, BAGS and SUIT CASES, and remember that this is the ONE PRICE STORE, and that price is always the RIGHT PRICE.

Our store will be open evenings from Dec. 18th to 23rd inclusive and closed all day Christmas.

E. N. SWETT SHOE CO.,

Opera House Block, NORWAY, MAINE.

Telephone 342

PLENTY OF COMPANY.

"Yes, she would carry over bridge."
"A and case."
"Oh, no great harm done. They put her in a comfortable position, and she's playing a better game than ever now."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

FURS

Ideal Christmas Gifts
We offer this month as our leader **LADIES' SUITS**, consisting of wide skirted Coats and large Fur New Hats, in the very latest and most stylish designs and in the following colors: Black, Fox, Black Wolf, Black Maroon and Belle Rose.

Your Choice \$25.00
Our feature stock at special prices during the remainder of the year. Give us an idea of what you want and we will send you catalogues and prices. **GOODS SENT ON APPROVAL.** Satisfaction guaranteed.
J. R. PALMER, CO., Portland,
Desk 18, 514 Congress Street, Portland, Me.

1874.

LADIES' FURS

No woman is so apt to be misled by the latest styles and to buy a fur coat that is not worth the money. Give us a chance to show you the difference between a cheap fur and a good one. We will show you a fur coat that is worth the money.

If you want a fur coat that is worth the money, give us a chance to show you the difference between a cheap fur and a good one. We will show you a fur coat that is worth the money.

The girl who wears a fur coat that is worth the money, gives us a chance to show you the difference between a cheap fur and a good one. We will show you a fur coat that is worth the money.

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A Yuletide Home-Coming By Charles McCabe

THE club looked just the very thing Gerald Manerley was craving for—a sense of home. A few floors above the club, a newspaper had been hanging for the old scene. And so he had traveled two days and nights in a sleeper, vaguely connecting his journey's end with all the love and friendship his starved nature was demanding.

When he arrived at his old club on a chilly, grey Christmas morning, it was only to find that fifteen years' silent absence had been too severe a test for friendship. The place was empty of all but servants, and they were strange, unwelcoming faces.

He stood at the club window, looking out on the desolate, deserted street which he had always remembered as being thronged, and a great sadness swept over him.

This was not what he wanted. From his pocket he drew out the scrap of paper which had really brought him so many miles, and looked at it bit by bit.

It was only a death announcement sent out from a paper of a year ago and ran in the usual way—Michael Towler, at his residence, etc.

In fancy he saw a sweet-faced maiden, who sought her happiness only in the eyes of the youth by her side.

There were joyful tears there, as they left the church with the fragrance of mutual love about them.

The bells pealed on outside, and willing fancy led him still further into the realm of "might have been."

In an instant he made up his mind to visit once more the old-fashioned cottage not many miles away, to which he had hoped fifteen years before to take a bride.

He would go and see it, even if his neglected condition only added to his loneliness and pain.

Two hours later he was striding through the crisp country air along a winding path which led to a rambling, ivy-covered cottage.

As the last turn brought him in sight of the house he stopped in surprise. He had expected to see dirt ruin, and decay, but instead he looked upon a trim, well-kept cottage, and a soft, crooning song, in a voice which reawakened the tender memories of long ago, came floating through the unwatched door.

Half believing that it must be fancy leading him still, he entered the house softly, and, following the voice, went into the inner room, and stood in the glow of the warm firelight.

The sweet, bird-like, middle-aged singer turned as his shadow fell across the light, and then stood white and trembling.

"Gerald," she whispered, "Gerald, have you come to reproach me? Not today! Not today!"

The strong man's voice broke as he held out his arms.

"Nancy!" he cried joyfully. In a moment she was crushed, sobbing, to his breast.

"Oh, Gerald! It is really good! God is very good. I thought you must be dead."

For several moments they stood thus, the strong man's tears falling on her forehead, and she gently put her arms about him.

"You are not alone," he said, as his eyes sought hers. "I have often come down here."

"But you are expecting somebody?" he said, calling attention to the table.

She flushed prettily, looking almost as young as she had in his dreams of the morning, as she replied:

"I was expecting you, Gerald."

He smiled happily at her, then the sunny faded, and he sighed as he sank into a chair.

"This is all fresh, Nancy," he said sadly. "You could not live here in the old days, you could do so now, and I could not live here on any other man's threshold."

A smile hovered over the woman's face as she fitted him and there, hastily prepared, there for a meal. Then she slipped behind a chair, and, leaning over, whispered with burning cheeks:

"Perhaps you do not know, Gerald, that Mr. Towler's money goes back to his family. If I marry again."

The man swung in his feet and took her into his strong arms again.

"It is not too late," he cried. "We are still young. Will you let me try to make you happy?"

LOOKE'S MILLS.

Mrs. D. B. Grant of Bethel was visiting friends in town, Sunday.

Ordel Bryant of Lewiston was the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Axel Bryant, Sunday.

Stanley Wheeler of South Paris was in town on business, Wednesday.

Mrs. C. R. Bartlett is attending State Grange at Lewiston, this week.

Tom Brown returned from Denia, where he has been hunting, bringing with him an eight point buck, weighing 200 pounds.

Grace, Kendall spent Sunday with her parents at Bethel.

Walter Rand was in Portland on business, Thursday.

Mrs. Elmer Pike was in Norway, shopping, recently.

London's Italian Colony.

The Italians in London, England, are sufficient of themselves to form a large town. There are as many as 14,000, about 2,000 of whom are ice-cream vendors and 3,000 organ-grinders.

The other 11,000 are chiefly engaged as plaster bust sellers, artists, models, cooks, valets, teachers, artists, restaurant and hotel keepers, and so on.

FRECKLED GIRLS.
I have just received a stock of WILSON'S FRECKLE CREAM made by WILSON FRECKLE CREAM CO., Charleston, South Carolina. It is fine, is fragrant and harmless, and positively removes freckles, tan, and brown spots, brightens dark faces, lightens eyes, and makes the skin soft and smooth. You have my guarantee that it will take off your freckles and tan or I will give you back your money. Come in, see and try it. THE JARS ARE LARGE and two at most are sufficient. I send them by mail, if desired. Price Six.

CEYLON BOWLS.
Bethel, Me.
524-261.

What Will the Baking Be?

If you have used William Tell Flour it will be bread that is good as most cake—cake that is a miracle of tender lightness—pastry that melts in your mouth.

Our own special process, latest improved machinery, perfect organization, selected Ohio Red Winter Wheat, makes William Tell the ideal flour.

It is also the most economical—makes the most loaves to the sack.

Have it in readiness for your next baking. Remember to order.



William Tell Flour

DECEMBER.

Oh! holly branch and mistletoe, And Christmas chimneys where we go, Oh, sing a carol joyfully. The year's great feast in keeping!

These are thy gifts, December! And if the year has made thee old, And silvered all thy locks of gold, Thy heart has never been a-cold, Or known a falling ember.

The whole world is a Christmas tree, And stars its many candles be. Oh, sing a carol joyfully. The year's great feast in keeping!

For once on a December night, An angel held a candle bright, And led three Wise Men by its light, To where a child was sleeping. —Harriet P. Blodgett.

Christmas Gift Suggestions

Gifts That Will Be Appreciated

Above Everything Else

Because nothing is so appreciated as something to wear

SANTA CLAUS is growing more practical. He is no longer a myth, but a real person. He is growing more practical. He is no longer a myth, but a real person. He is growing more practical. He is no longer a myth, but a real person.

each year, and instead of the things that satisfy the eye alone—so common in years gone-by—we now witness the giving of those whole-some, useful and practical things which one gratefully received on Christmas day, but are a source of much joy and pleasure for many days to come.

A New Suit or Overcoat

FOR FATHER, GRANDPA, BROTHER OR SON, WOULD BE "JUST FINE"

MEN'S SUITS

MEN'S OVERCOATS

BOYS' SUITS

BOYS' OVERCOATS.

"The story of Christmas is the story of human sacrifice. The charm of Christmas is the charm of generosity. Sacrifice and generosity go hand in hand in the world-wide will-impulse of all mankind to give at Christmas time."

EVERYTHING DISPLAYED

Where you can readily inspect the goods and make your selections, however busy we may be.

GENTLEMEN'S JEWELRY.

Cuff Links, Watch Pobs, Scarf Pins, Shirt Studs, etc. Good goods at less than Jeweler's prices.

MEN'S FINE SHIRTS.

New colorings and patterns—a fine assortment. They make a very pleasing gift.

BEAUTIFUL NECKWEAR.

The season's very newest creations, 25c to \$1.00.

GLOVES

Of all kinds are here in vast assortments. Wool Gloves, Kid Gloves, Fur Gloves. 50c to \$5.00.

HANDKERCHIEFS

All kinds, from the cheapest to the best—plain or initial—great values at 10c to \$1.00.

MILK NECK HOFERS

are sensible, serviceable and beautiful. 50c to \$2.00.

FANCY VESTS

are very much liked by most men and they always long for "another one."

STYLISH NEW HATS

The latest shapes and shades—stiff or soft. The right styles and qualities at the right price, \$1.00 to \$5.00.

SPECIAL GIFT BOXES

for all our Neckwear, Suspenders, Hosiery, Gloves, Handkerchiefs, Etc., make the gifts attractive.

BATH ROBES

and Lounging Robes make excellent gifts. Ours are very attractive this year. \$3.00 to \$8.00.

SWEATER COATS

for men and boys. Coats of quality very reasonably priced—all color combinations, 50c to \$3.00.

HOSIERY

An immense line of good socks in all the shades one can imagine, priced, 25c to \$1.00.

UMBRELLAS

make an attractive gift—they are useful and certain to be appreciated.

FINE WINTER CAPS

in stylish shapes and shades—made to keep head and ears real warm 50c to \$3.

Commence right away to do your Christmas trading—come forenoon if you can—the sooner you come, the better the assortments will be, and then you don't have to hurry. Make selections now; we'll deliver when you want us to. We are showing, by far, the finest collection of desirable gifts for men ever shown here.

GONYA BROS.,

Rumford,

Maine.

There Is Little Satisfaction

in buying goods out of town and afterwards finding out that they could have bought them at less price at home.

In order to avoid this, trade with **YOUNG**

LADIES' AND GENTS' FUR GOODS, FUR CAPS, FUR LINED GLOVES, TRUNKS, BAGS, SLIPPER BELLS, HANDBAGS, ETC.

YOUNG'S,
BETHEL, MAINE.

Christmas Tree Lesson

It would be perfect folly, George, the girl was saying. "Thank you," the man replied. "You know very well what I mean. It would be foolish—worse than foolish—for us to marry and—It is not because I do not love you, George," she added, earnestly. "What on earth is necessary—except love?" asked the impatient man. The girl laughed. "Much—much more," she said. "You admit, for instance, that you are absolutely bored to death in the country, that you have any kind of outing where you have to get down to nature is uninteresting to you. Even today you chafe under the discomfort of having to sit on a mossy mound instead of in a mahogany arm chair with a leather hassock at your feet. You would rather hear the clang of a trolley car than the song of a bird; you would rather eat a six-course dinner in a brilliantly lighted restaurant with music and the chatter of many companions than sit down quietly in your own home to a simple domestic meal with—well, a single woman for a visa-vis. While, I—well, set down all the opposites of the things you live for and you have what I like. Don't you see, George?"

For a time the man did not answer. He counted the buttons on his gaiters with the tip of his waiting stick. "It is as bad as that, girl?" he asked. "Are we as far apart as that?" Eleanor nodded while she looked straight into his eyes. "We are," she repeated, "even as far as that."

"And there we stand—do we?"

"Yes—you in the city with all the lights turned on you; I in the quiet, peaceful country with only the eyes of my family and my friends to see me and all of nature to commune with."

"It doesn't look like a very happy prospect for a life together, Eleanor."

"We're old enough to see that—even in our 20's—aren't we? But, oh—"

and there was a great longing tenderness in his voice—"I do love you. I do want you, dear."

The girl turned away. Presently she rose to go. "There is no tenderness in her movement. At last, the thing she had been fearing had come to pass. They had had their explanation—they had tried to have an understanding as to why they could not marry each other. There was no further hope that he would live of the life she considered artificial, the life she had been brought up in and—hated. Always, she had longed for the country and when she began to realize that she loved George Davidson it was with a fading hope that she studied his life, his fancies, his preferences. He loved every inch of the merry avenues of the crowded cities, every atom of their existence.

On the way home the man told her frankly that if he could not have her—if she could not marry him and take a chance with it all—he would put her out of his life. His manlike, was willing to take any chance to have her for his wife; but then, she explained to him, he had not given it the thought that was necessary.

"Well, I'll travel," Eleanor told him when they were parting. "I want to see rural France and Germany and—"

with you out of my life, George—I might be lonely," she said a little wistfully. She looked hastily away that she might not see the effort with which he kept the sparkling tear-drops from smilling down her cheek. "And—if I find that I can come back—and—"

she said with her eye on the trolley track. "I'll come and let you know. Eleanor, you shall not know where I am, she said, an almost imperceptible break in her voice. She had tried to be gay, but she had failed miserably—and she knew he knew it.

"All right, girl," the man said, holding her hand closely in his own. "I'll come and let you know. Eleanor, you shall not know where I am, she said, an almost imperceptible break in her voice. She had tried to be gay, but she had failed miserably—and she knew he knew it.

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German, but, most of all, she taught them the love of Mother Nature. The holidays were drawing near and Eleanor had little time for introspection. She was busy helping the children keep their Christmas secrets, planning for the Christmas tree in the church, making odds and ends to give to friends. For the time, she was almost forgotten.

But when Christmas eve had come and gone and she sat in the small conservatory of the rectory on Christmas afternoon when the children, tired from play, had gone to take an afternoon nap and the good rector with his wife had gone and done likewise, Eleanor began to have that lonely feeling deep within her. She looked out of doors where tiny snowflakes were just beginning to blow here and there as forerunners of a glorious Yuletide snowstorm.

Suddenly, as if by magic, she was out of the blues, she sought her cloak and gloves. She would go out in it if only because she could!

Outside, she struck out briskly toward the churchyard where the fir trees were green. There was much of the yard that was made up of beautiful parkways with wonderful blue spruce trees mingled with the old-fashioned green Christmas tree.

It was toward these trees that she walked and with every breath of the soft, moist air, she felt invigorated. The caress of each tiny snowflake as it touched her cheek was sweet to the girl who loved nature.

Presently, ahead of her, she saw a group of boys. They seemed to be looking up at a great green fir tree and listening to a man who stood in their midst.

Eleanor drew near. None of the little group had seen her as she walked softly on the snow-covered grass. The man—her heart beat wildly—was George Davidson.

Suddenly, as if he felt her presence, he turned. "You," he cried, "Eleanor!" Then, as if remembering the boys, he said, "Boys, I want to introduce you all to Miss Marvella. Perhaps she can tell you more than I can about—Christmas trees."

Eleanor acknowledged the introduction to each bareheaded lad even while her hand was still in the big warm one of George Davidson.

"It's like this, Eleanor," he was ex-

plaining. "I've sort of taken up some settlement work on the East side lately, and when one of these boys asked me—'not long ago—where the Christmas trees came from—I felt ashamed to think he had been under my eye and didn't know. He'd never been out of the city in his life—had never seen a fir tree growing."

Eleanor's eyes grew wide with surprise. "Poor lad!" she said.

"When and there, I promised the whole crowd of boys that on Christmas day I would take them to see a real Christmas tree growing in the earth where it belongs. I told them they should not have their gifts until we stood under one of Nature's own trees and—well, here we are. Aren't we, boys?" he asked, turning to the group of young foreigners who adored him.

"I was trying to tell them about—"

tree and things and—"

The man broke off lamely.

"And you didn't know very much about them. Was that it?" Eleanor asked, teasingly.

"That's it, exactly," he said. Then he drew near and spoke in an undertone while the lads, feeling instinctively that they were at liberty to roam about if they desired, left the two standing together.

"Is it too late for me—to learn?" he asked.

"No," she said, "but first, I'd like to exchange a few lessons in how to be home in a fashionable restaurant for them, she said.

"Eleanor!" he cried.

"Yes," she admitted, "It isn't so thrilling to sit on the porch all evening and watch the moon come up behind the trees—alone—even if it is Nature. I suppose we combine our lessons and live in the country, but not so far that we can't get to town whenever we—yes I should say—feel like it."

"I feel now, dear, that I never want to see the city again—if you don't want to, she said.

"Yes as you say of living without you that I'd gladly camp under a haystack with nothing but the loving hand for an outlook if you were with me."

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